

Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Program

Recommendations for Council Bluffs

Bow Hunting Guidelines and Rules For The 2011-2012 Season

1. All hunters are encouraged to take a bow hunting safety course or equivalent training as determined by the Public Health Director. **This will be mandatory for 2012-2013 season.**
2. All hunters must pass an archery proficiency test. This test is a demonstration of skill. Hunters must place 5 out of 5 arrows in the kill zone of a 3-D target at 20 yards. Proficiency tests must be renewed every year with the exception of those hunters that took one (1) or more deer in the 2010/2011 season. Archery hunters that took one (1) or more antlerless deer during the 2010/11 hunting season are exempt from having to take the proficiency test for the 2011/12 season. ***(This is a one-time exemption for any Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management hunter that was certified by the Council Bluffs Health Department and took at least one antlerless deer last year. Everyone will have to recertify in the Fall of 2012.)***
3. All hunters must have written permission from the owner or owners of the property upon which they hunt. Permission forms must be carried with the hunter at all times along with the Urban Deer Management Certificate and I-DNR hunting license. The permission form must also be on the hunter when transporting a deer or any other hunt related activity. The following areas are permitted for bow hunting within the corporate limits of Council Bluffs: all A1 and A2 zoned areas as well as R1, R2, and R3 zoned areas of three acres or more.
4. All hunters must obtain a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate from the Council Bluffs Public Health prior to being allowed to obtain a City antlerless tag from Woods Sporting Goods. In order to obtain his/her Certificate the hunter must complete and show proof of completing a hunters safety course; proof of proficiency test certification. (A hunter be limited to purchasing no more than (5) tags at a time. Once the five tags are filled, a hunter can again purchase (5) five additional tags.
5. No uncased bows shall be allowed within 500 feet of a residence or within 150 feet of a city improved trail, road or building.
6. There shall be no driving or stalking of deer.
7. Shooting shall be from an elevated position - at least 6' above ground level with all shots in a downward trajectory and be at least 150 feet from all city improved trails, roads, buildings and at least 500 feet from any residence, (or at the landowners permission.) All hunting stands, hunting positions or stand locations must be approved by the landowner.
8. Know your effective shooting range and do not shoot beyond that range. Recommended shots are 20 yards or less.
9. Be sure to identify your target as an antlerless deer. Does will count towards incentive programs developed and approved by the City of Council Bluffs and the Iowa DNR. However, button bucks will not be eligible for inclusion into incentive programs. Harvesting of antlered animals is prohibited

except within the scope of incentive programs approved by the City of Council Bluffs and the Iowa DNR. Harvesting of antlered animals may subject the hunter to all appropriate legal penalties and may result in the suspension of the hunter's Council Bluffs Urban Deer Certificate .

10. Take only high percentage shots-avoid wounding deer.
11. Be sure what is down range of your hunting position and make every effort to retrieve arrows. If an arrow is lost, the landowner should be informed that the arrow has not been retrieved.
12. The hunter shall report to the Health Director (712) 328-4666 within 12 hours after a deer has been harvested. (Please call to ensure you get credit for taking an antlerless deer.) Once a deer has been harvested, it should be taken to the Central Fire Station, 200 4th Street, or Council Bluffs Recycling Center, 4441 Gifford Rd., where personnel from the either department will be available to inspect the deer from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. The hunter shall identify him/herself by name and by the number of their Council Bluffs Urban Deer Certificate. The hunter shall also provide the following information: address and location of the property (by deer management zone) where deer was taken from; sex of the deer, tag identification #, and date of harvest.

I-DNR requires that the Transportation Tag, with the date of harvest properly recorded, demonstrates proof of procession and must be attached within 15 minutes of harvest or before the animal is removed, which ever come first. The Transportation Tag must be attached to the deer leg if antlerless.

Hunters who harvest a deer must report the harvest to I-DNR by midnight on the day after it is tagged, or before taking it to a locker or taxidermist, or before processing it for consumption. **Failure to report or reporting falsely may result in a misdemeanor citation.**

13. The hunter shall report to the Health Director by phone (712-328-4666) within 12 hours if they are unable to locate a wounded deer and provide information and assistance to the Chief Animal Control Officer to assist in the tracking and recovery of the animal. A group of trained volunteer trackers will be available to assist in the recovery of any animal the hunter is unable to locate.
14. If a hunter takes a deer and wants to continue hunting for another deer, the hunter may obtain additional tags from Woods Sporting Goods, 531 W. S. Omaha Bridge Rd. The number of tags issued will not exceed the 300 issued by the I-DNR. The hunter may keep the deer for personal use or may take the deer to an approved Iowa meat locker under the HUSH program. The processed meat will go to needy Iowans and distributed by the Food Bank of Iowa. The lockers in Pottawattamie County involved with the HUSH program is: Hancock Frozen Foods, Hancock, IA and Minden Meat Market, Minden, IA.
15. Use proper field dressing techniques. Cooperate with the landowner regarding the location or Disposition of entrails. All deer must be covered or enclosed during transport.
16. Remove yourself from any harassment situation and immediately report the incident to the hunt administrator and DNR officer.
17. Report violators to the DNR conservation officers or the Health Director.
18. To be eligible to receive a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate applicants may not have any fish or game violations in the past three years according to the DNR.
19. All hunters shall have in their possession at all times during the hunt and le transporting a deer: a valid Iowa hunting license, habitat stamp, proper deer license, a signed and completed landowner permission form, and a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate.

20. The Council Bluffs Deer Bow Hunting Season will run continuously during the state archery deer season. All hunters shall observe all state rules and regulations with exceptions for this special program within the city limits. Boundaries are anywhere within the Council Bluffs city limits and only on private property with exception of Fairmont and Sternhill Parks and the City Cemetery which have hunters already selected to hunt these areas.

21. INCENTIVE PROGRAM

All hunters participating in the 2011/12 urban deer hunt are eligible to participate in an incentive program for the chance of obtaining one of (10) ten buck tags. In late October, names will be placed in a drawing for (10) ten incentive buck tags. This program will reward hunters for herd reduction efforts. The program will require a hunter to harvest at least 4 does during the 2011/12 hunt and have each of these animals confirmed as an urban zone kill by the Public Health Director. The name of the bow hunter will be placed in the drawing for every doe he or she takes over and above the qualifying number of four (4). The drawing for the (10) ten incentive buck tags shall take place on Friday, October 28, 2011. The ten bow hunters shall be notified by phone.

22. QUALIFYING FOR 2011/2012 PROGRAM

Those qualifying for this year's Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Program must take one antlerless deer during the 2011/2012 season to be able to qualify for the 2012/2013 season. Those not taking an antlerless deer will have to set out for one season and will be able to qualify again for the 2012/2013 season.

**Council Bluffs Health Department – 209 Pearl St., Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Phone (712) 328-4666 Fax (712) 328-4917**